

Adobe Acrobat 5.0

Repurpose text and graphics from PDF documents

With Adobe Acrobat® you can extract text and graphics from your PDF files for use in other documents. This gives you a great way to leverage content from different sources, letting you create new directions for your files.

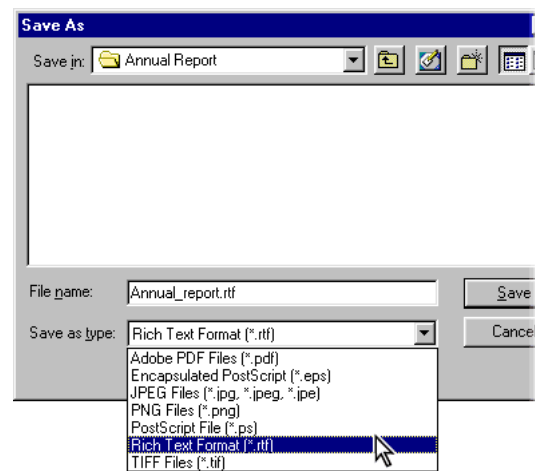
In the steps that follow, you'll learn how to copy the text of a PDF file, as well as retain the format of tables and control the resolution and format of the graphics you extract.



1. Extract the text from the PDF file.

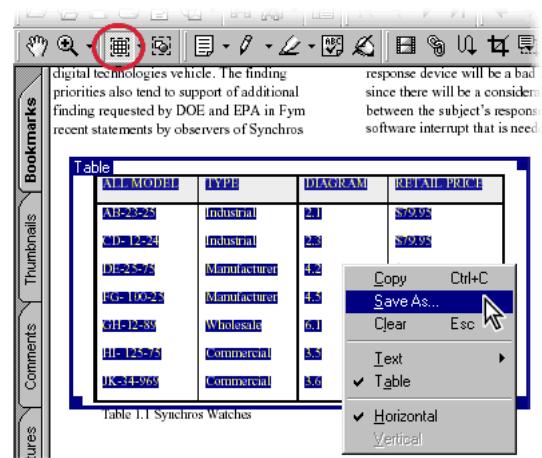
To extract all the text from a PDF file, choose File > Save As. Then choose Rich Text Format (*.rtf) for the type of file. Rich Text Format is a standard for exchanging content between text-editing applications.

Tip: If you want only a section of a PDF file, use the Extract Pages command to make a PDF file containing just the pages you need, then extract the text and graphics you want from it.



2. Extract tables from the PDF file.

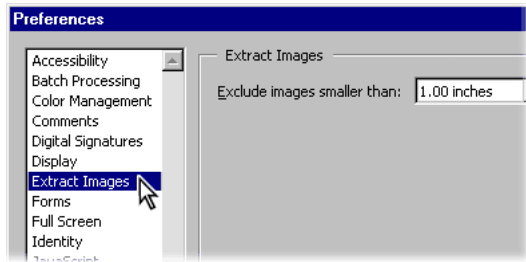
In Windows, you can extract a table with its format intact. Just select the table/formatted text select tool. Next, drag a marquee around the table. Then, right-click and choose Copy to copy the table for pasting directly into another document or Save As to save the table as an RTF file.



3. Select your preferences for extracting graphics.

Before extracting any graphics, choose Edit > Preferences > General. Then select Extract Images in the left pane of the Preferences dialog box.

To prevent small images, such as repeated graphic elements or icons from being extracted, choose a size from the Exclude Images Smaller Than menu. Images below that size won't be extracted from your document.

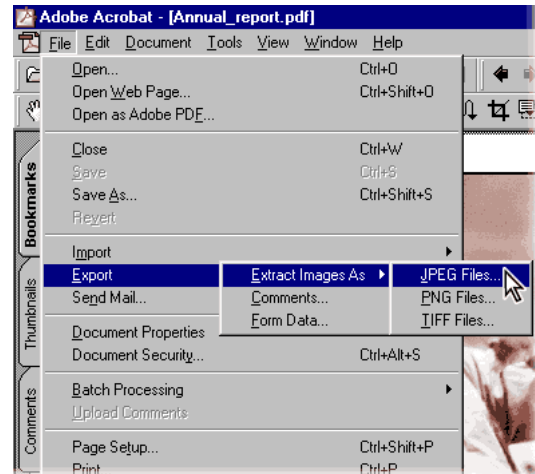


4. Extract the graphics from the PDF file.

To extract the graphics, choose File > Export > Extract Images As, followed by the format you want: JPEG, PNG, or TIFF. If you want to set compression, color-space, and resolution options for the file format, click the Settings button.

Then select a location and name for the files. Each image is extracted as a separate file, preceded by the name you specified. (If you're extracting a lot of images, it's a good idea to create a folder to hold the resulting image files.)

Tip: You can also use the graphics select tool to copy graphics from a single page of a PDF document. (This tool doesn't let you control the image format or set custom options, however.)



5. Bring the text and graphics files into your word-processing application.

To bring the extracted text file and any tables saved as files into your document, use the Open or Import command in your word processor. You can then import the extracted image files as well.

Because the image files are all separate, you can place them in any order and use just the ones you want. You can now edit the text and graphics just as you would any other document in your word processor and save it in the word processor's native file format.

